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Ideas about 4-H Clubs and Y M W



Federal Extension Service

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

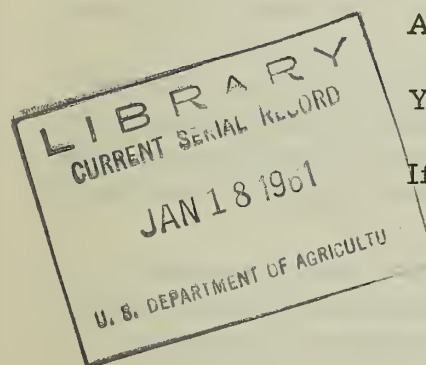
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Washington 25, D. C.

CHRISTMAS, 1960

There's a bit o' Christmas music
In the carols of the flame,
And you're sure to catch a vision
Of the night the shepherds came;
You can hear the alleluias
Sung by some angelic choir,
If you'll draw a little closer
To the old log fire.

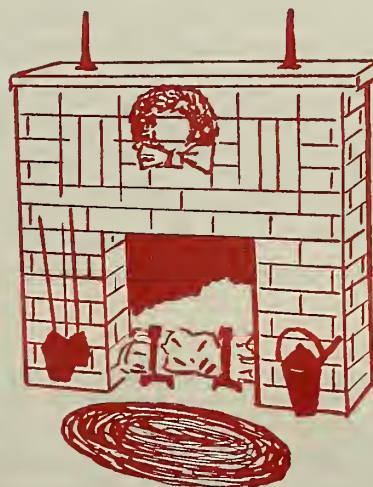
--from "The Old Log Fire"
by A. K. Roswell



Yes, we will be drawn a little closer to our families and friends around the home fireside this Christmas Season, all grateful for the privilege that is ours. A privilege that has no equal--the joy and satisfaction of serving our youth and their volunteer leaders throughout America. Each contributes his or her bit toward fulfillment of the vision portrayed by the Star of the East in Bethlehem nearly 2,000 years ago.

This Christmas Season gives us an additional pause to be reverently grateful for the dedicated national leadership Ed Aiton has given 4-H Club work these past eight years. His high ideals and devotion to helping young people has a reflected glow in the hearts of all of us who know him. We are glad that his new assignment is providing even wider opportunities to serve the people of our Nation. We know that Ed and Helen will visualize new challenges of service as they gaze into their own Yule fire on the eve of our Savior's birth.

Our wish is that the Christmas Season will further enable each of you to find an inner happiness for a job well done and a new dedication for the year ahead.



THE NEW APPOINTMENTS

A chain reaction was started when C. M. Ferguson was moved up to be Assistant Secretary and Paul V. Kepner was named Extension Administrator. The next action named Gerald H. Huffman to be Deputy Administrator.

Ed Aiton was then chosen to replace Mr. Huffman as Assistant Administrator for Programs. This means Ed will have overall administrative leadership for the five program divisions: Agricultural, Agricultural Economics, Home Economics, Information and 4-H Club and YMW. For the past 9 years, since Ed became the first Director of the Division of 4-H Club and YMW Programs, he has given outstanding leadership, recognized both within and outside of Extension. He has consistently demonstrated administrative capacity and comprehensive knowledge of Extension work. Our Division staff has valued the opportunity of working under his democratic type of leadership.

Our staff was pleased that Ed's replacement came from within the ranks - Mylo Downey as director of the Division and John Banning has succeeded to Mylo's title as Assistant Director for agriculture, teaming up with Fern Kelley who has that assignment for the home economics side of Extension youth programs.

Due to circumstances after the official announcement, our quickest way of getting word to you was to send copies of the U.S.D.A. press release. We trust you received your release before you had word from other sources.

"THE NEW RURAL AMERICA, OPPORTUNITIES UNLIMITED"

We recommend you see the new 13 1/2 minute film documenting the Rural Development Program. The film, which will be available from film libraries at land-grant colleges, emphasizes that the role of government is to help people to help themselves.

A major result of the Rural Development Program is to offer better opportunities for the young people. As low-income people are aided to improve farming, earn more off-farm income, and build more prosperous communities; they can provide better educational and career opportunities for their boys and girls and better home conditions.

CITIZENSHIP SHORT COURSES

This past summer and fall, more than 350 4-H members and leaders from 10 States representing 97 counties participated in the Citizenship Short Courses

held at the National 4-H Center. Living in their "new home" and using the Nation's Capital as their classroom made a vital impact on the participants. Not only did their history and civic books come alive but they gained deeper insights of the real meaning of citizenship and how it is applied to their own local club situations.

The course is a five day workshop designed for 4-H members over 15 years of age who are in a position to give leadership in their club and counties. It provides excellent training for junior leaders, officers, county council members, etc.

Here is a chance to recognize the older, all-around club member who is making a nice contribution to club work but has not won the top awards. Actually, selection should not be considered so much as an award as another step in the club member's citizenship learning experience.

Several groups are scheduled for this winter and many requests are coming in for next summer. For more information, write to Stanley R. Meinen at the National 4-H Club Foundation, 7100 Connecticut Avenue, Washington 15, D. C.

INTERSTATE VOLUNTEER 4-H LEADERS FORUM - March 20-24,
October 16-20, 1961, or your choice

You know of the Interstate Volunteer Leaders Forum idea suggested by the National 4-H Leadership Development Committee and approved by the Extension Subcommittee on 4-H Club Work. The forum is not a replacement or substitute for work done with leaders in their own counties or States. Rather it is an opportunity for volunteer leaders to receive that extra inspiration and spark they may get from a stay at the National 4-H Center and the Nation's Capital. The dates of March 20-24 and October 16-20, 1961, have been tentatively established for Interstate Volunteer Leader Forums for any number of local leaders a State or county may wish to have participate providing a minimum number of 25 register for these events. Other dates are still available for county or State groups with the minimum 25 leaders. Please contact W. W. "Andy" Eure if you are interested or want further information.

4-H AT WORLD'S AGRICULTURAL FAIR

Latest international opportunity for 4-H is to send four 4-H Club boys to the World's Agricultural Fair in Cairo, Egypt, beginning March 21. The 4-H members, plus an agricultural and a home demonstration agent, will be in

the section of the Fair being planned by the Department of Agriculture. There will be a full scale county Extension office and a 4-H demonstration area. General theme is "Power to Produce for Peace."

Canned vegetables, fruits, meats, pickles and jellies from the State of Kansas will be on display at Cairo. At the State Fair, the work of 55 women and 4-H girls was chosen to make a representative display of home-canned products.

GOD-HOME-COUNTRY AWARDS

We are wondering if most county staff members know of the God-Home-Country Awards made available through both the Catholic and the Lutheran Church groups. Likewise some church leaders may not know about them. Many deserving 4-H members are likely missed because the program is not well enough known.

Among requirements are that the 4-H club part of the record needed for judging be endorsed by the local 4-H Club leader and county Extension agent. Additional requirements, appropriate to the church group, are also to be met by the member. The awards are made in a special ceremony.

Let's be sure staff members know of these award possibilities. By establishing a plan, the church groups have recognized that 4-H is a worthwhile experience for boys and girls.

CANADIAN 4-H CLUB WORK

A delegation of eight 4-H members and Owen Trask, 4-H Club Specialist, Conn., represented our U. S. program at Canada's 29th National 4-H Club Week observance held at Toronto and Ottawa. Our delegates came from: Connecticut, Maryland, Iowa, Kansas, Florida, Arkansas, Colorado and Alaska. Each province names 14 delegates to the National meeting where "4-H and Education" is the theme.

A group of 10 Canadian 4-H members were at National Conference last April. This is the third consecutive year for a U. S. delegation to attend the Canadian event.

4-H REPRESENTATIVE ON IMPORTANT NATIONAL COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee of the Council of National Organizations for Children and Youth has requested that a 4-H Club member be named to

participate in the work of this committee. Named is Richard Robinson, Belchertown, Mass., an 18 year old 4-H Club member and participant in the recent White House Conference on Children and Youth. The Executive Committee represents National Leaders of Youth Agencies and is responsible for giving guidance to the followup on the White House Conference.

MARYLAND DAIRY JUDGING WINNERS FOR THE 15th TIME

A Maryland team again placed first in dairy judging at Waterloo, Iowa. This means they will be eligible to receive an invitation to the International Dairy Cattle Judging event in London, England. This is the 15th time, since 1920, that Maryland has had the high scoring team. An Illinois team took second place honors.

GOLDEN JUBILEE CONVENTIONS

The Camp Fire Girls and the Girl Scouts have recently held Golden Jubilee conventions. Fern Kelley, who has represented us at both conferences, reports the groups were concerned about:

Program divisions for different age groupings - about the same groupings as we are suggesting - 7-8, 9-11, 12-14, 15-17.

Enriching programs by more analysis on understanding ourselves and others, international understanding, health and fitness, and family participation.

More help to volunteer leaders.

Community understanding and participation.

Both of these youth organizations have made tremendous growth in membership- Camp Fire Girls to 600,000 and Girl Scouts to 3,500,000 (youth and adults). However, both are talking about how their programs can be expanded to reach many more girls not now reached by a youth program.

We have been pleased to show our interest and good will by 4-H representation at the conventions.

Miss Louise A. Wood of Chicago has been named the Executive Director of Girl Scouts. She will succeed Dr. Dorothy Stratton, who retired in July. Miss Wood was a 4-H Club member in Minnesota.

"MAN ENOUGH FOR THE JOB"

We have previewed the working copy of the movie "Man Enough for the Job", and are pleased with the progress Sam Orleans and his co-workers are making on this 4-H sound, color movie. We think you will find the film has good value for both general and special audiences. It should be available sometime in December. Distribution plans for the movie will be announced later.

Copies of an FES letter, dealing with certain aspects of the production, were inadvertently sent by Mr. Orleans to county Extension workers in several of the States without prior approval from this office. We regret this.

4-H CLOVER FABRIC

We are having renewed inquiries about the 4-H Clover fabric developed a few years ago. This is the fabric printed by Lowensteins. Most of the J. C. Penney stores carry it. If you do not find it in your store, be sure to express your interest to the local manager. If he is not stocking it, it may be for lack of a request for it.

LITTER-PREVENTION GUIDE FOR 4-H CLUB LEADERS

Keep America Beautiful, Inc., has advised they still have available for distribution a supply of about 15,000 copies of the "Litter-Prevention Guide for 4-H Club Leaders." Many States have used this leaflet very advantageously in litter prevention programs. We suggest you write to Margaret D. Lawrence, Coordinator, National Advisory Council Activities, Keep America Beautiful, 99 Park Avenue, New York 16, N. Y., if you can use additional quantities.

LEADS FOR LEADERS

Ohio has furnished us copies of its training material on "Planning a Local 4-H Club Program". This was developed in a staff workshop which had a dual purpose of staff development as well as production of materials.

YOUTH ISSUE OF EXTENSION SERVICE REVIEW - May 1961

A reply
please

✓ We are in the planning stages for the May issue of Extension Service Review. We need your ideas both for content and specific authors. Tentatively, we are intending that the issue will emphasize how Extension youth programs are developed.

Please let us have your ideas about possible articles and authors.

SHARING SOME OF THE GOOD IDEAS
IN USE IN THE STATES

LEADER DEVELOPMENT

Florida - Leadership Development

Real progress in Florida's leadership development work began on a pilot basis with two counties in each of the Extension districts. A good program handbook has now been developed out of the experiences of these six pilot counties. As a result, sixteen leadership program guide sheets or "teaching units" have been developed. Scripts and outlines for visuals have been provided. District leadership workshops were held for training agents in leadership concepts. Dr. Neiderfrank of FES assisted with these district workshops.

Pennsylvania - "Understanding Youth" Conferences

Leaders had opportunity to attend one of five district sessions planned for late October and November. For several years, Dr. Glenn Dildine has been resource person for such conferences.

Washington - Leaders on Board of Directors

Six 4-H dairy club leaders were named to serve on the first Board of Directors for the 4-H division of the State Junior Dairy Show. Each of the leaders represents a district comprising three to seven counties. They will serve as an advisory board on policies and procedures to the Agricultural Extension Service. Four other persons will be named to the Board.

FOR OLDER MEMBERS

California - Citizenship Certificates

A very attractive 4-H Club citizenship certificate has been designed by California. It is to be used by 4-H Clubs of the State to recognize members who have passed their 21st birthday. The certificate has places for the signatures of the State 4-H Club Leader, the President of the County 4-H Club Council, and the 4-H Club Farm Advisor.

Connecticut - Career Exploration Tour

A weekend tour to Hartford let older members each make three on-the-job visits to explore careers. Each member was encouraged to do advance research and was provided a "Search for Facts" sheet to help him decide on possible visits. A final discussion evaluation session was focused on using the results of the interviews.

Connecticut - IFYE Reunion

Each year a dinner is held for former International Farm Youth Exchange delegates and friends of the program. Exchangees from Netherlands and from Mexico were special guests at the recent event.

Iowa - Clothing Work with Boys

Forty counties are beginning work on helping young men with improved appearance and dress. Initially the staff planned for about 15 pilot counties. The larger number indicated greater-than-expected general interest. The program was initiated at training schools in late October.

Minnesota - Camps for Senior Members

Running in sequence were the State 4-H Conservation Camp and then the State 4-H Health Camp, both held at Itasca State Park. The program for the Conservation Camp included classes in land conservation, forestry, Minnesota plants and shrubs, outdoor living and water safety, demonstrations on gun safety, a park tour and a conservation treasure hunt. Purpose of the camps is to help 4-H member increase their appreciation of the importance of conservation and to help them recognize the part they can play in conservation work.

Delegates to the health camp included county health champions and other 4-H'ers chosen on the basis of personal health records, the work they have done in improving health conditions in their homes and communities, and their ability to bring back health information to fellow club members.

Ohio - Citizenship Feature

A group of Ohio 4-H Club members expressed their views September 12 on lowering the age limit for voters to 18 years, and voted an emphatic negative.

The occasion was a mock legislative session at the State Capital in Columbus, one of the highlights of Ohio's 43rd annual 4-H Club Congress September 10-14. During the mock session a selected group of 4-H delegates voted on a constitutional amendment to permit persons over 18 years of age to vote.

The mock sessions, a traditional highlight of the 4-H Club Congress, are designed as lessons in lawmaking for the club members. The boys and girls are permitted to take over the House of Representatives, each sitting in the seat of his home county representative. A set of legislative officers are selected from among the 4-H'ers to direct the session.

FOUNDATIONS

Alabama - State 4-H Foundation

An ambitious program has been developed by the new Alabama 4-H Foundation for the expansion of 4-H Club Work. Recently the Foundation launched a \$3,000,000 drive which will continue for the next five years. One and one-half million has been set aside for program development which includes district camps, adult leadership development, junior leadership, scholarships, IFYE and the people-to-people program. The one and one-half million sum is an endowment fund.

Maine - Pine Trees for 4-H Center

Maine 4-H members presented 500 pine trees for landscaping the National 4-H Center. This is Maine's second memorial gift, the first being a bedroom in Warren Hall, dedicated last April. On hand from the Pine Tree State for the presentation ceremony were 29 4-H club members and four leaders who had been participating in a special citizenship short course.

4-H BEFORE THE PUBLIC

Georgia - TV Spreads the 4-H Story

4-H's popular weekly half-hour television show on WAGA-TV, Atlanta, observed its 5th anniversary November 5. During an hour-long television celebration, Miss Para Lee Brock, originator and producer, and the station, received many letters and telegrams of congratulations. Among them were wires from Ed Aiton and Acting Secretary of Agriculture, Marvin McLain.

"These Eager Hands" was title of a half-hour TV documentary about 4-H Club Work, produced in September by two newspapers, the Atlanta Journal and the Atlanta Constitution. The film announcement referred to the program as giving "a new and hopeful look at Georgia" and as a "study in depth of these molders of the future and fortune of the State."

Virginia - Over 200 4-H Roadside Signs in 59 Counties

The official 4-H roadside sign for Virginia is painted on aluminum. It carries the 4-H colors with a white background and green letters. In addition to the county name and welcome message, the slogan "Drive Safely" is inscribed. These signs make suitable club projects and fit well into a county or club 4-H safety project. Orders are approved by county agents and sent to the State 4-H department at VPI.

NEWS OF OUR CO-WORKERS

Mrs. Aurora R. Padilla has been named Assistant State 4-H Club Leader in Puerto Rico. She has been on study leave at Cornell. Formerly, she was a home demonstration agent.

Bill Coffindaffer of West Virginia is on study leave. Sorry we missed his name on the earlier list.

Tom Rogers of South Carolina has the title of Acting State Boys' 4-H Club Agent. Leon Clayton is on a foreign assignment.

Cal Monroe is Acting State 4-H Club Leader in Oregon while Burton Hutton is on study leave.

Craig R. Montgomery, North Dakota, now has the title of State 4-H and YMW Leader. Mrs. Gladys N. Hansen has the title of Associate State 4-H Leader.

Virginia Norris of Missouri is being transferred to an assignment as a district supervisor.

CITIZENSHIP CONFERENCE

We've been interested in the reports of our 4-H delegates to the National Citizenship Conference in September. This year's participants were: Richard Bringelson, Neb.; Lloyd Morgan, Wash.; Bonnie Elizabeth Shuman, Fla.; and Beverly Sanford, Conn. In addition, Sylvia Harp and Gerald Flynn, attended representing Michigan 4-H Club Work. Stanley Meinen acted as advisor to the group. Pre-and post-conference sessions were held with Dr. Glenn Dildine to assist with interpretation of the experience. Shared with us are these striking statements emphasized as part of the summary:

1. Good citizenship is like the measles - it is catching.
2. We should use government more and abuse it less.
3. Freedom is not free. It has been paid for over the years.
4. If we are going to export democracy we are going to have to produce a lot more of it.
5. Blessed are the meek in politics for they are left holding the bag.
6. Silence is not always golden - sometimes it is just plain yellow.
7. We can't stop people from thinking but we can start them.
8. The turtle is making progress only when he has his neck out.
9. The world is now too dangerous for anything but truth - too small for anything but brotherhood.
10. Every citizen is in politics. The Constitution of the United States puts him there.

IN CLOSING

Bonnie Elizabeth Shuman, Florida, 4-H representative to the National Citizenship Conference, closed her report with this paragraph:

"4-H really aims toward developing certain personal inner qualities which lead members to act effectively and democratically, these qualities being understandings and feelings and attitudes. The training of the head for understanding and knowledge, the heart for beliefs and feelings, the hands to be skillful in doing, and the health for personal development toward a happy life--these things are basic for democracy."

Sincerely yours,



Mylo S. Downey, Director
4-H Club and YMW Programs

Program Leaders:

Mary Frances Lyle
V. Joseph McAuliffe
Lloyd L. Rutledge

John W. Banning, Assistant Director
Fern S. Kelley, Assistant Director
(Editor of IDEAS)

Enclosures

P. S. We have just received the following news which we are especially thrilled to share with you.

HONOR TO IFYE

The Institute of International Education is presenting its distinguished service award to the International Farm Youth Exchange Program. Presentation was featured at a dinner in San Francisco on December 2. The award to IFYE is for "outstanding contribution to international understanding."

Warren Schmidt and Exchangee John Romig of Ohio (delegate to Brazil, 1957) received the citation. The presentation was made at the I. I. E. sponsored national conference on Exchange of Persons.